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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/725,169	12/01/2003	Curtis Reese	100110834-1	2044

7590 08/16/2007  
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EXAMINER
EBRAHIMI DEHKORDY, SAEID

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2625	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
08/16/2007	PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/725,169

Applicant(s)

REESE ET AL.

Examiner

Saeid Ebrahimi-dehKordy

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 01 December 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>8/10/06</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____.  |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

2. Claims 1-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hanson (U.S. patent 6,148,346)

**Regarding claim 1 and 18** Hanson discloses: A method, comprising: identifying a model of a printing device connected to a network (note Fig.5, where the printer's name and model are identified, such as printer name = HDE/Meister, Manufacturer/ Model: Ricoh C4FM) providing access to printing device management content related to the printing device (note Fig.3, where the user device is equipped with the GUI 60, which would enables the use to access the printer's management data, column 5, lines 22-32) the printing device management content including native interfaces for accessing printing device firmware in the printing device (note Fig.8I, where

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the menu for printer firmware maintenance is displayed, column 7, lines 34-42) providing a user interface related to the printing device management content (note again Fig.6, items 61-66, which user uses to access the management content of the printer HDE/Meister, column 5, lines 22-32) the user interface including one or more user-selectable items (note Fig.3, items 61-66, column 5, lines 25-30) each user-selectable item being associated with a printing device management function available in the printing device management content (note again Fig.3-8, where the different buttons are designated to manage and manipulate the printer's content) receiving a user selection of at least one user-selectable item (note Figs.3-8, where any of the selected button on the main menu would execute the option designated by the user) executing the printing device management function associated with the user selection (note again Figs.3-8 where any option designated by the user would be executed, column 5, line 22 to column 7, line 42) and wherein the printing device management content is located on or accessed by the printing device if the printing device has a browsing capability (note Figs.3-8, where the printer management content would be accessed on the printer, through the menu of Fig.3, column 5, lines 22-67) and the printing device management content is located on a network site if the printing device does not have a browsing capability (note Figs 8D, F and H, which uses the URLs to access the data needed).

**Regarding claim 2** Hanson discloses: The method as recited in claim 1, wherein if the printing device does not have a browsing capability, the executing further comprises communicating with the printing device firmware at a low level between the native interfaces and a stub located on the printing device, the stub exposing multiple firmware interfaces (note Fig.8I, 86a, column 7, lines 34-41).

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**Regarding claim 3** Hanson discloses: The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising determining if the printing device has a browsing capability (note Figs. 8D, F and H, where the user URLs would require a browser to be resident in the printer).

**Regarding claim 4** Hanson discloses: The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the printing device is directly connected to the network (note Fig. 2, where the printer 56 is connected to the server 57 and host computer system 10 through the network).

**Regarding claim 5** Hanson discloses: The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the printing device is indirectly connected to the network (note Fig. 2, where the printer 56 is connected to the server 57 and host computer system 10 through the network).

**Regarding claim 6** Hanson discloses: The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the network site is an Internet site (note column 8, lines 1-15).

**Regarding claim 7** Hanson discloses: The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the printing device management function further comprises a function that harvests data from the printing device (note Fig. 3-8, where the host would access the printer to retrieve data manipulate data, note column 5 line 22 to column 7, line 25).

**Regarding claim 8** Hanson discloses: The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the printing device management function further comprises a function that modifies printing device settings (note Figs. 3-8, where the menu keys are selected by the user to modify or manipulate the functions of the printer).

**Regarding claim 9** Hanson discloses: The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the printing device management function further comprises a function that transfers printing device software to the printing device (note Fig. 8I, item 86a, where the firmware was updated for the printer).

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**Regarding claim 10** Hanson discloses: The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the network site further comprises a network site maintained by a manufacturer of the printing device (note column 3, lines 15-30).

**Regarding claim 11** Hanson discloses: The method as recited in claim 1, wherein: the printing device is a first printing device; and the method steps are repeated for a second printing device connected to the network (note Fig.2 items 56 and 55, and note Fig.5, where the printers are set up as the same process could be executed).

**Regarding claim 12** Hanson discloses: A client device, comprising: memory (note Fig.8D, column 6, lines 37-39, where the fonts were stored in computer 10, which requires the memory to do so, inherently) a processor (note Fig.2, item 17) a browser (note 8H, where help file set up menu 85a accessed upon selection of "set URL or printing file, which again requires a browser) a printing device management component (note Fig.3, item 60 the menu for controlling and modifying the printing device) configured to: access one of multiple printing devices in a printing device group (note Fig.5, where the printer's name and model are identified, such as printer name = HDE/Meister, Manufacturer/ Model: Ricoh C4FM) identify a model of the printing device (note Fig.5, where the printer's name and model are identified, such as printer name = HDE/Meister, Manufacturer/ Model: Ricoh C4FM) locate a set of printing device native interfaces for the printing device ( note Fig.3, where the menu items are displayed items 61-66, column 5, lines 22-32) and communicate with the printing device to execute a printing device management application (note Figs.3-8, where the commands are executed by through the displayed menus 61-66 to manage and manipulate the printer functions, column 5, line 22 through column 7, line 32).

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**Regarding claim 13** Hanson discloses: The client device as recited in claim 12, wherein the printing device management component is further configured to locate the set of printing device native interfaces by retrieving the interfaces from the printing device (note column 5, lines 22-32, where display unit 15 of the host computer 10 of Fig.2 would be retrieving the interface such as 61-66 from the menu 60 of Fig.3 to communicate with the printer device).

**Regarding claim 14** Hanson et al discloses: The client device as recited in claim 12, wherein the printing device management component is further configured to locate the set of printing device native interfaces by accessing a network site (note column 3, lines 15-29).

**Regarding claim 15** Hanson discloses: The client device as recited in claim 14, wherein the network site is a network site maintained by a manufacturer of the printing device (note column 3, lines 15-30).

**Regarding claim 16** Hanson discloses: The client device as recited in claim 12, wherein the printing device management component is further configured to communicate with the printing device via a stub located on the printing device, the stub exposes low level firmware interfaces for the printing device (note Fig.8I, item 86a, where the firmware interface is displayed for the user to manipulate, column 7, lines 34-41).

**Regarding claim 17** Hanson discloses: The client device as recited in claim 12, wherein the printing device management component is further configured to access at least one other printing device of the printing device group to execute the printing device management application with the other printing device (note Fig.5, where the list of the printers in the network is displayed for the user, or Fig.3, item 62, where the available printers are listed for the user to chose from, and just the example any printer could be manipulated as printer HDE/Meister).

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**Regarding claim 19** Hanson discloses: The one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 18, wherein the determining step further comprises referencing a list that includes printing device model numbers and, if the list contains a model number of the printing device, determining that the printing device is management-enabled (note Figs.3-8, where the list of the printers are displayed and then based on the list the printer is modified).

**Regarding claim 20** Hanson discloses: The one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 18, wherein the determining step further comprises attempting to locate a browser in the printing device and, if a browser is found, determining that the printing device is management-enabled (note Figs.8D, F and H, where the user URLs would require a browser to be resident in the printer).

**Regarding claim 21** Hanson discloses: The one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 18, wherein the determining step further comprises attempting to locate one or more software files exclusively related to a browser and, if found, determining that the printing device is management-enabled (note Figs.8D, F and H, where the user URLs would require a browser to be resident in the printer).

**Regarding claim 22** Hanson discloses: The one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 18, wherein the facilitating step further comprises receiving user input for the printing device and displaying user output generated by the printing device (note Figs.3-8, where the user would be able to detect the printer data and modify the printer functions).

**Regarding claim 23** Hanson discloses: The one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 18, wherein the accessing printing device management content step further comprises accessing printing device management content on a web site (note Fig.8D, F and H, column 6,



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line 30 to column 7, line 34).

**Regarding claim 24** Hanson discloses: The one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 23, wherein the web site is a web site maintained by a manufacturer of the printing device (note column 3, lines 15-30).

**Regarding claim 25** Hanson discloses: The one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 18, wherein the communicating step further comprises communicating with a stub located on the printing device, the stub exposing the printing device native interfaces (note Fig.8I, item 86a, column 7, lines 34-41).

**Regarding claim 26** Hanson discloses: The one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 18, wherein the communicating step further comprises utilizing one or more native interfaces that are proprietary to a manufacturer of the printing device (note column 3, lines 15-30).

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Saeid Ebrahimi-dehKordy whose telephone number is 703-306-3487. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri, 8:00am-6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Moore can be reached on 571-272-7437. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Saeid Ebrahimi  
Patent Examiner  
Group Art Unit 2625  
August 8, 2007

